

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 11610 221936Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-02 HA-05 CA-01 SSO-00

/027 W

-----022481 221938Z /75

O 221453Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3739

UNCLAS ROME 11610

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES (MC KAY, DONALD L.)

SUBJECT: DEATH OF DONALD L. MCKAY

REF: STATE 158663

1. CONGRESSMAN MAZOLLI INTERESTED.

2. WHEN MRS. MCKAY REQUESTED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN HAVING HUSBAND'S REMAINS SHIPPED TO US, SHE WAS TOLD THAT PERTINENT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD GENERALLY TAKE 5 DAYS DURING WHICH TIME FAMILY WOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEPOSIT FUNDS THROUGH DEPARTMENT SHOULD SHE NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT CASH. THEREAFTER, SHE WAS GIVEN DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS HOW TO WIRE FUNDS THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT AND SUGGESTED TO DISCUSS PERSONALLY FEES AND COSTS WITH LOCAL UNDERTAKER AS SHE INTENDED TO SELECT AN ALUMINUM CASKET WHICH WOULD CONSIDERABLY CHANGE STANDARD COSTS QUOTED IN POSTS' REPORT.

2. UNDERTAKER INFORMED EMBASSY THAT MRS. MCKAY INSTEAD ACCEPTED STANDARD WOODEN CASKET USUALLY USED IN ROME WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT SHE WOULD CHANGE IT IN US AFTER THE COMPLEE EMBALMING AND COSMETIC PREPARATION WOULD BE EFFECTED. DESPITE PREVIOUS INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM MRS. MCKAY BY THE EMBASSY ABOUT REMITTANCE OF FEES AND COSTS, SHE AGAIN DISCUSSED WITH UNDERTAKER MODE OF PAYMENT ON GROUNDS OF LACK OF CASH. AS A MATTER OF COURTESY AND KNOWING THAT EMBASSY WOULD MONITOR CASE, UNDERTAKER

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AGREED TO ADVANCE COSTS AND TO SHIP REMAINS BY JUNE 23.

4. REMAINS ARRIVING NEW YORK JUNE 23, TWA FLIGHT 845 FOR ONWARD SHIPMENT SAME DAY TO LOUISVILLE, KY., AL FLIGHT 279.

5. DEPARTMENT'S ASSUMPTION CITED IN PARA 3 REFTEL IS CORRECT. EMBASSY GREATLY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING

DEPOSIT OF DOLS 1800.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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